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THE ZIKA AIRS PROJECT (ZAP)

CONTRACTOR(S)/GRANTEE(S): **ABT ASSOCIATES**

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The Zika AIRS Project (ZAP) aims to reduce the burden of vector-borne diseases, including Zika, through robust mosquito control activities. Through the joint Ministry of Health (MOH)/University of the West Indies (UWI) Mosquito Control and Research Unit (MCRU), ZAP Jamaica provides best practices in routine entomological surveillance, insecticide resistance monitoring, and larviciding in an effort to prepare for any forthcoming arbovirus control efforts. ZAP Jamaica works at national, regional, and parish levels with the MOH and various partners to achieve the following key objectives:

- Support the roll-out of the newly launched MCRU, including organizational development support and supplies and equipment for a new insectary.
- Develop and/or update national guidelines for mosquito control and research in Jamaica in collaboration with key stakeholders.
- Enhance the capacity and skills of the MOH through national training in vector control and entomology, community-level skill building, and procurement of supplies and equipment.
- Conduct insecticide resistance testing to assess the effectiveness of several insecticides for both adults and larvae of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitos.
- Deliver a larviciding campaign in select parishes to target mosquito larvae in breeding sites around homes, businesses, schools and other community buildings before they can mature into adult mosquitoes.
- Carry out entomological surveillance to assess the density of mosquito populations across the island and document the distribution of mosquito vectors in Jamaica.